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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/038,749	01/02/2002	Gregory A. Lyon	33778	2952
116	7590	03/26/2004	EXAMINER	
PEARNE & GORDON LLP 1801 EAST 9TH STREET SUITE 1200 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-3108			LEE, HWA S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2877	

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/038,749

Applicant(s)

LYON, GREGORY A.

Examiner

Andrew H. Lee

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION*****Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. **Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, and 10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Farnsworth et al (US 6,582,132).

Farnsworth et al (Farnsworth hereinafter) show a connector panel mount system comprising:

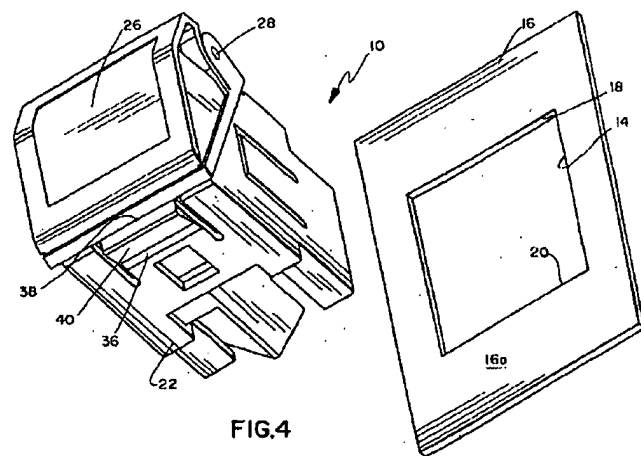
a connector receiving housing (12) having a plurality of surfaces for mounting to

a receiving member (16) having first and second faces, the connector receiving housing having a cavity therein and one or more passages adjacent the cavity for receiving the fiber optic cable connector;

a protrusion (38 and/or 34)

on the left and rights sides of the connector receiving housing for slidably engaging the first face of the receiving member; and

a lip (34) on the connector receiving housing for engaging the second face of the receiving member;



**FIG.4**

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whereby the housing is mounted to the receiving member by the interaction of the lip and the protrusion.

With regards to claim 2, the protrusion is wedged shaped.

With regards to claim 4, the protrusion and the lip define opposed surfaces.

With regards to claim 9, the passage for receiving a connector is at an angle to an opening of the cavity.

With regards to claim 10, the protrusion defines an edge and permits the receptacle housing to slide through an opening in a receiving member; and whereby the housing is secured into the opening in the receiving member by the interaction of the lip and the edge on the protrusion.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claim 3** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farnsworth in view of Bissinger (US 5,470,165).

Farnsworth does not show the shape of the protrusion to be parabolic. Bissinger shows a parabolic protrusion. At the time of the invention, one of ordinary skill in the art would have made the protrusion to be parabolic in shape in order have high strength, dimensional stability. Furthermore, protrusion of various shapes are known in the art such as conical and semicircular.

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5. **Claims 5, 8, 12, 15, 16, and 18-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farnsworth in view of Benner et al (US 2002/0172469) and Poplawski et al (US 5,879,173).

Farnsworth shows all the limitations but does not show what material the connector housing is made of.

Benner et al (Benner hereinafter) shows a fiber optic adapter wherein the housing uses a conductive material (paragraph 0021, last sentence). At the time of the invention, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make the housing of Farnsworth conductive in order to protect the assembly from EMI (paragraph 0003).

Poplawski et al (Poplawski hereinafter) show a removable transceiver module and receptacle wherein a housing is made of polymer and is coated with an electrically conductive material, therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art would have further modified the housing of Farnsworth to be made of polymer material and coated with an electrically conductive material since Benner teaches that any conductive material can be used for the housing and Poplawski shows that the housing material to be a polymer material with a coating of electrically conductive material which meets Benner's requirements.

As for claims 15 and 19, the passage for receiving a connector is at an angle to an opening in the cavity.

6. **Claims 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 17, are 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farnsworth, Benner and Poplawski as applied to claims 5 and 12 above, and further in view of Beck et al (US 5,259,792) and Porter (US 5,808,866) and Brennan et al (4,516,825).

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Farnsworth, Benner and Poplawski do not expressly show the material of the housing being polycarbonate and the conductive material being chrome or copper-nickel. Beck et al show the conductive material to be copper-nickel and Porter shows the chrome. At the time of the invention, one of ordinary skill in the art would have used chrome or copper-nickel since both Beck and Porter show their use as coatings as conductive material to protect from EMI, and would have used polycarbonate material since polycarbonate is a well know polymer, as Brennan et al shows, in order to save production costs over more expensive metal (Beck et al, column 3, lines 18-46).

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Technology Center (TC) 2800 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to TC 2800 via the PTO Fax Center located in CP4-4C23. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The CP4 Fax Center number is 703-872-9306 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

If the Applicant wishes to send a Fax dealing with either a Proposed Amendment or for discussion for a phone interview then the fax should:

- a) Contain either the statement "DRAFT" or "PROPOSED AMENDMENT" on the Fax Cover Sheet; and
- b) Should be unsigned by the attorney or agent.

This will ensure that it will not be entered into the case and will be forwarded to the examiner as quickly as possible.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew Hwa Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-2419.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Lee', with a stylized, flowing script.

Andrew Lee  
Patent Examiner  
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March 18, 2004/ahl